

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 03660 121954 Z

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ACTION INT-08

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E. O. 11652: N- A

TAGS: TPHY, ETRN, ENRG, GW

SUBJ: US- FRG COOPERATIVE PROGRAM IN NATURAL RESOURCES ( UGNR)

REF: A. STATE 044060 B. BONN A-3, JANUARY 4, 1972

1. SUMMARY. IN VIEW EXCELLENT US- FRG RELATIONSHIP, GERMANS CONSIDER BILATERAL AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN S& T NEITHER NECESSARY NOR USEFUL AT PRESENT TIME. COOPERATION IN " NEW" TECHNOLOGIES WITH COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL WILL PROBABLY REQUIRE FORMAL AGREEMENTS BUT ONLY AFTER PROGRAM IS WELL DEFINED ON SOUND S& T BASIS.  
END SUMMARY

2. EMBASSY APPRECIATE PROMPT REPORT ABOUT US- FRG UGNR CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON.

3. RE REFTEL PARA 5: QUESTION OF NEED OR DESIRABILITY OF FORMAL US- FRG AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
( S& T) HAS OFTEN BEEN MENTIONED HERE IN CASUAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SCIATT AND REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS FRG MINISTRIES INVOLVED IN S& T AFFAIRS. GERMAN OFFICIALS HAVE ALWAYS CONCLUDED THAT A FORMAL BILATERAL AGREEMENT WOULD BE NEITHER NECESSARY NOR USEFUL BECAUSE THE CLOSE US- FRG RELATIONSHIP PERMITS EFFECTIVE COOPERATION WITHOUT THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEXITY IMPLIED BY  
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PAGE 02 BONN 03660 121954 Z

GOVERNMENT- TO- GOVERNMENT AGREEMENTS. AS REQUIRED, AGENCY- TO- AGENCY MEMORANDA ARE USED TO RECORD DETAILS OF SOME SPECIFIC UNDERSTANDING.

4. US- FRG MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR COOPERATION IN MAGNETOHYDRODYNAMICS PROVIDES CASE IN POINT. AS GERMAN OFFICIALS NOW SEE SITUATION WITH PERFECT HINDSIGHT, THEY WERE FORCED INTO PREMATURE AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE RESULTS IN ADVANCE FOR VISIT TO US BY FRG SCIENCE MINISTER. EMBARRASSMENT CAUSED BY SUBSEQUENT FRG DECISION TO TERMINATE DIRECT SUPPORT FOR MHD SUGGESTS THAT NEED FOR NEW AGREEMENTS WOULD BE EVEN MORE CAREFULLY EXAMINED IN FUTURE. ( SEE BONN 3238 AND PRIOR REFERENCES FOR FURTHER DETAILS).

5. A RECENT TREND IN FRG SCIENCE/ TECHNOLOGY POLICY EMPHASIZES TECHNOLOGIES RELEVANT TO NEEDS OF SOCIETY AND GERMANY' S PLACE IN WORLD. ( SEE REF B). IN DISCUSSIONS OF BILATERAL COOPERATION IN THESE " NEW" TECHNOLOGIES WITH THEIR COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL, A NUMBER OF FRG OFFICIALS FORESEE AN EVENTUAL NEED FOR FORMAL AGREEMENTS. PRESENT FRG CONSENSUS, HOWEVER, IS THAT A PROGRAM MUST FIRST BE CAREFULLY DEFINED ON SOUND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL BASIS BEFORE ANY FORMAL AGREEMENT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. FRG WOULD PARTICULARLY OPPOSE ANY " BLANKET" AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR COOPERATION IN SOME VAGUELY DEFINED GENERAL AREA OF SCIENCE OR TECHNOLOGY.

6. FRG IS INTERESTED IN COOPERATION WITH US IN SEVERAL FIELDS OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY, INCLUDING: ENERGY PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION ( I. E., USE OF LOW- GRADE ENERGY, NUCLEAR PROCESS HEAT FOR COAL GASIFICATION, NEW ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES, BUILDING INSULATION, ETC.), HEART AND CIRCULATORY SUPPORT SYSTEMS, ECONLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL TEXICOLOGY, DEEP OCEAN DRILLING, SPACE R& D AND MAGNETIC LEVITATED TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS. IN FRG VIEW POST- APOLLO SPACE COOPERATION WILL REQUIRE FORMAL GOVERNMENT- TO GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT. ( SEE BONN 2943). THERE HAVE ALREADY BEEN PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS WITH US AGENCIES ABOUT MOST OTHER AREAS MENTIONED ABOVE WHICH COULD LEAD TO FORMAL AGREEMENTS IF THESE APPEAR NECESSARY AS COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS DEVELOP.

7. FOR EXAMPLE, FRG IS CLEARLY CONSIDERING NECESSITY OF AGREEMENT WITH US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO COVER COOPERATION IN MAGNETIC LEVITATED TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS. US DELEGATION FROM DOT HAS BEEN INVITED TO FRG TO DISCUSS RELEVANT US TECHNOLOGY, TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BONN 03660 121954 Z

INSPECT GERMAN TECHNOLOGY AND TO BEGIN MUTUAL EXPLORATION OF  
WAYS US- FRG COOPERATION IN THIS COMMERCIALY- EXPLOITABLE  
TECHNOLOGY  
MIGHT BE ACHIEVED. MEMCONS COVERING DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN FRG  
EMBASSY OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF DOT AND SCI, WHICH  
MENTIONED  
REF A, PARA 5, CORRECTLY REFLECT GERMAN CONCERN ABOUT IMPLICATIONS  
OF US FAILURE TO APPROVE AD REFERENDUM AEROSAT AGREEMENT.  
HOWEVER,  
FRG IS NOT RPT NOT READY TO PROPOSE AN APPROPRIATE QUID PRO QUO  
FOR MAGNETIC LEVITATED TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGY AND IT IS NOT  
RPT NOT YET CLEAR WHAT IN THEIR VIEW SHOULD BE THE CONTENT OF AN  
AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN THIS AREA.  
HILLENBRAND

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